Cree Valley Community Council	Action point
Minutes of meeting held on 2nd February 2026 in McMillan Hall, Newton Stewart	
Present: Jamie Hyslop (Chair); Iain Service (Secretary); Neil Skelton (Treasurer); Robert Boan; Paul Comacchio; Carol Gibson; Jackie Hedley; Charles Marshall; Debbie Monteith; Lisa Sykes; David Spruce; Cllr Jackie McCamon; Ward Officer Melinda Dolan; Moyra Breckenridge (minutes).	
Apologies: Morag McIlwraith; Cllr David Inglis	
Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising: Agreed - proposed by Lisa Sykes; seconded by Bob Boan. A714 & Wood of Cree road – some patching works done but no cutting back of overhanging foliage; Cllr McCamon to chase up. Glentrool Community Association local place plan – meeting to be arranged. Bus actually still being parked overnight at Douglas Terrace blocking bus stop. Co-option of new CVCC member: Carol Gibson confirmed; Dean Waugh proposed by Jackie and seconded by Lisa – to be confirmed at next meeting. Grit box being provided for corner beyond Minnigaff Church.	Cllr McCamon Neil Skelton Secretary Secretary Bob Boan
Police report: None received. No Police attendance for several months; bin at Cree bridge on Minnigaff side upended; drunken behaviour when pubs come out not being policed, situation especially bad in Queen Street including untaxed car parked at roadside; littering and other matter in laybys a concern; people encouraged to report such matters to Bob to pass on to the police authority.	
Treasurer's report: Circulated. 24/25 Accounts and discretionary grant forms lodged; music licence - £22.80 being refunded (£100.78 claimed), situation needs clarifying for next time. Opening balance £3796.45. Income - none this month. Outgoings – NSI for Wellbeing Hub room hire £220.00; Bank charges £4.25; JB Print for Wellbeing posters £12.00; December Wellbeing Hub room hire £165.00. Closing balance £3395.20. Outstanding accrued invoices - LM Bookkeeping - £45.00 (estimated); Payments to R Kay as previously; ICO Data Protection fee £52.00. Available balance accounting for o/s payments and restricted funds - £1246.20. Potential refund re music licence – as above; no progress re Co-op; Wellbeing Hub grant application – decision expected by 31st March as is DG Council discretionary block grant. Finalised year end accounts have been circulated, queries to Neil requested before he meets with the book-keeper. Following a meeting with former treasurer and a query raised about a payment, the former treasurer made a revision which has raised another query. Invoices for Zoom meetings to be provided. Other matters still to be clarified. Release of outstanding CREPL funds – CVCC should consider which projects or area of community work these funds could support; suggestion monies could be used eg. to smarten up the town.	Treasurer C. Marshall Treasurer
Resilience report: Defibs checked again – all ok; PVG registration – suggestion all members should be covered, Bob to find out what's involved; Community council training sessions – Bob has info, Melinda advised DG Council also provide training sessions; Community Resilience Plan – meeting has taken place:- sandbags available at Barnkirk when required; Polaris vehicle currently in storage – Jamie to	Bob Boan

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go back to Kilgallioch suggesting vehicle could be sold and funds put into resilience fund.	Jamie Hyslop
NS Wellbeing Hub: Now being held fortnightly until funding situation improves; Co-op supplying refreshments; Bob will source lockable large plastic box to hold supplies; posters now up in outlying areas; confirmed donations to be used for hub.	Bob Boan
Co-option of new CVCC member: Dealt with above. Melinda explained rules with regard to co-opted members.	
Elected members' report: Cllr McCamon approached by constituents asking if there would be toilets at the new transport hub; Lisa pointed out toilet facilities at car park are not up to standard; there is a definitely a need for toilets at the square; Cllr McCamon will find out more; unsafe trees at Suspension bridge have been cut down; enquiries to be made about clearing debris on side ropes; following retiral of their committee a meeting was held in an effort to garner support to save the Pageant, Cllr McCamon called upon the community council to do what it can, agreed an invitation be extended to the former office bearers to attend CC meeting in March; suggestion in future a community events manager could be appointed to support local groups with their events.	Cllr McCamon Ditto Secretary
Community benefit fund update: Response received from SPR to the letter drafted by Jamie and sent after the last meeting; CVBT have completed due diligence checks; SPR encourage CVCC, CVBT and NSI to work together for the community and would be happy to meet to discuss matters; a Zoom meeting is arranged with SPR for 3rd February, Jamie and Iain invited along with CVBT; Charles Marshall advised no agreement has been entered into with either SPR or FS; Jamie read out letter from NSI setting out their suggestions as to how to move forward; Melinda Dolan pointed out FS governance of monies works well in other areas. Jamie asked for the opinion of the CC members present as to whether they would support CVBT signing the contract with SPR. There were 10 elected and one coopted CC members present. Nine elected members and one coopted member expressed the opinion that they would not support CVBT signing the contract with SPR. There was one abstention as Charles Marshall declared a conflict of interest as he is Chair of CVBT. David Bleasdale asked if the proposal from NSI would be considered by the CVCC. Jamie said that as the NSI proposal stated the CVBT should sign the contract with SPR – this could not be supported as CC members had expressed the strong view that they would not support CVBT signing the contract. Jamie said he would email SPR with the outcome of the meeting and the view expressed by the CC. Jamie said he would look at exploring alternative solutions to the signing of the SPR contract and report back to the CC .	Chair
Planning: Plans for car park near gospel hall near Dashwood Square; Crafty Distillery application for amendment to their alcohol licence; plans online.	
Transport hub works: Replacement tree position still needs to be resolved; also pointed out that trees should be planted at the Suspension Bridge to replace those recently felled.	
Wind farms: Application for Shennanton extension of time was rejected; Blair Hill under consideration; Glenvernoch going to public land enquiry; Dave Spruce will keep CVCC appraised; CVCC will be part of process.	Dave Spruce
Disabled access drop kerbs: Lisa and Carol making progress gathering info but still more to do; grant claim for this project in hand.	Lisa/Carol

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Glentrool place plan: Neil will update on progress.	Neil
Correspondence: Unused sandbags and Sparling bridge closure signs need to be removed.	Melinda Dolan
AOCB and Public Forum: Neil in contact with Forest Land Scotland and liaising with Billie Jones about foliage cut-backs; FLS aver Wood of Cree road is DG Council's responsibility, Neil pursuing. General misbehaviour on the street when pubs are being emptied needs to be addressed – suggestion publicans and police should be made aware this is causing concern in the community; Bob to raise matter in police forum and also mention cars at Penninghame PS are again parking inappropriately; potholes on Wood of Cree road still causing concern.	Neil Bob
Date and time of next meeting: Monday 2nd March at 7.00pm.	

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